Investment by IT industry in Technical Education

3125. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that about Rs. 2000 crores are required for technical education, to keep leadership in IT market;

(b) if so, whether Government would make the IT industry also share this investment;

(c) whether any blueprint has been prepared for this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The Task Force on HRD in IT in its Interim Report has made forty-seven (47) recommendations aimed at ensuring supply of adequate and quality IT manpower for both meeting the domestic and global demands. This shall be done by strenghtening and upgrading the technical education system in the country. These recommendations relate to IT faculty development, IT curricula & courseware development, strengthening of computing and networking facilities, digitization and modernization of libraries, use of IT for administrative support services and promoting interface with industry. Investment required would be to the tune of Rs. 2000 crore (central share along) over a seven year period (up to the end of 10th Five Year Plan). Most of the capital outlay would, however, be required in first 3-4 years only. These interventions would result in overall increase in availability of quality IT manpower in larger numbers in the country. This will help the Indian software services sector to increase its productivity and move up the value chain, enabling the country to capture larger share of global markets of IT software and services.